

What is claimed is:

1. A channel selection device used in a digital/analog broadcasting receiver comprising, a receiver for receiving an encoded digital/analog broadcasting signal originated from a broadcasting station, a digital/analog decoder for decoding the digital/analog broadcasting signal received from the receiver and then outputting the signal to a display device for displaying an image, a memory for storing, as a channel map, channel information contained in the broadcasting signal decoded by the digital decoder, a control unit for controlling each section of the receiver, and an input device for inputting a user's instruction for channel selection to the control unit, wherein the device receives a digital broadcast and an analog broadcast which are originated through different physical channels, the digital broadcasting signal has one or a plurality of sub-channels for originating contents therethrough per one physical channel and also has a VCT (Virtual Channel Table) containing virtual channel information which provides the sub-channels with a correlation with an analog broadcasting physical channel, and the control unit controls the device such that the receiver receives the broadcasting signal of a selected channel upon reception of the channel selection instruction from the input device, and then the digital decoder decodes the received broadcasting signal, in order to obtain the channel information contained in the decoded broadcasting signal and then store the channel information in the memory; characterized in that,

the control unit, upon reception of the channel changing instruction from the input device;

tries to select the channel by referencing the VCT thereof when the unit could find channel information of a channel related to the changing instruction (desired channel) in the memory, and as a result of the trial, selects the channel when the desired channel was found and, when it could not find the desired channel and failed in the channel selection, obtains the latest VCT to thereby select such a channel in the VCT that has the smallest sub-channel number in the same main channel as the desired channel or such a channel that has the smallest sub-channel number in the same physical channel as the desired channel and,

shifts a frequency to search for the physical channel when the unit could not find the channel information of the desired channel in the memory and, as a result, references the VCT for channel selection when it could obtain the VCT and, otherwise, selects such a channel that has the smallest sub-channel number in the same physical channel as the desired channel.

2. A channel selection device used in a digital/analog broadcasting receiver comprising, a receiver for receiving an encoded digital/analog broadcasting signal originated from a broadcasting station, a digital/analog decoder for decoding the digital/analog broadcasting signal received from the receiver and then outputting the signal to a display, a memory for storing, as a channel map, channel information contained in the broadcasting signal decoded by

the digital decoder, a control unit for controlling the sections of the receiver, and an input device for inputting a user's instruction for channel selection to the control unit, wherein the device receives a digital broadcast and an analog broadcast which are originated through different physical channels, the digital broadcasting signal has one or a plurality of sub-channels for originating contents therethrough per one physical channel, and also has a VCT (Virtual Channel Table) containing virtual channel information which provides the sub-channels with a correlation with an analog broadcasting physical channel, and the control unit controls the device such that the receiver receives the broadcasting signal of a selected channel upon reception of the channel selection instruction from the input device, and then the digital decoder decodes the received broadcasting signal, in order to obtain the channel information contained in the decoded broadcasting signal and then store the channel information in the memory; characterized in that,

the control unit, upon reception of the channel changing instruction from the input device, tries channel selection based on the channel information stored in the memory and, as a result of the trial, when failed in the channel selection of the desired channel, selects such a predetermined sub-channel in the same main channel as the desired channel or selects a predetermined sub-channel in the same physical channel as the desired channel.

3. The channel selection device used in the digital/analog broadcasting receiver according to claim 2, wherein the control unit,

when failed to select the desired channel, obtains the latest VCT to thereby select such a channel in the VCT that has the smallest sub-channel number in the same main channel as the desired channel or to select such a channel that has the smallest sub-channel number in the same physical channel as the desired channel.

4. The digital/analog broadcasting receiver equipped with the channel selection device according to claim 2, for receiving a digital broadcast according to the ATSC (Advanced Television Systems Committee) standard and an analog broadcast according to the NTSC (National Television Systems Committee) standard.